

# At The

- Being Alive Living Room
- Women's Coming Out Group
- The Lambda Library
- Men's Coming Out Group
- Café Lambda
- Eagles (Gay Seniors Group)
- Project HEAL



**December 1994**

# Center

- Being Gay Today Cable TV
- Youth Rap Group
- Lambda Players
- Project Tocsin
- Youth Social Night
- Hate Crimes Reporting Project
- Youth Movie Night
- Youth AIDS/Substance Abuse Prevention

**20th & L, Midtown Sacramento**

**Joanna Cassese, Executive Director**

**(916) 442-0185 or 447-5755 FAX**

## Lambda Community Center Welcomes the Holidays with Festivities

This year members of our community will have a variety of options for holiday celebrations and/or gift purchases. The Lambda Community Center will be holding its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Celebration on Saturday, December 3 at 6:00 p.m. Join the Sacramento Men's and Women's Chorus for holiday carols and bring your two and four legged, significant others to take pictures with Santa Claus. Music, hot beverages and a great time are guaranteed. Last year nearly one hundred celebrants lined the streets in front of the center and sang along with the chorus as several hundred lights glowed in rainbow colors. This year we will be providing an interpreter for the Deaf Community.

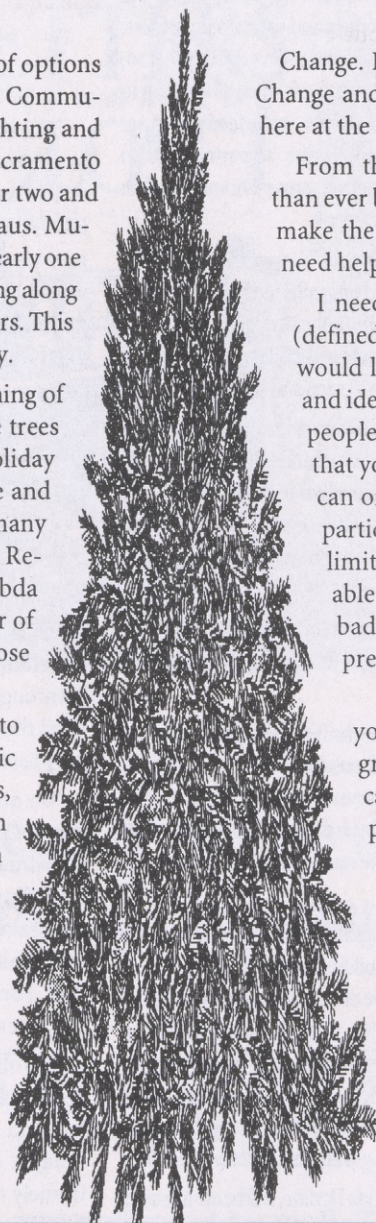
Also on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Center will host the grand opening of 1994's "WHY BUY A STRAIGHT CHRISTMAS TREE" lot. Last year the trees went fast, so call to reserve your tree now! At our lot, other holiday items will be available for purchase in addition to hot coffee and music to warm your spirits. All proceeds will help fund the many health related programs at the Center including the AIDS Response Program, Being Alive Living Room, HEAL, and Lambda Youth. These essential programs strive to reduce the number of new HIV cases within our community as well as to care for those people already living with AIDS.

On December 17 and 18 the Center will be transformed into an old fashioned Victorian arts and crafts fair, with food, music and entertainment. We will feature local artists, musicians, and a special opportunity to purchase copies of "Letters From the Closet" personally signed by the authors Paulette Jacobson and Tony Ferrante. Come and hear the intimate details of their creation on Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Café Lambda will host a "Holiday Dinner with the Family" on Friday December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Turkey and duck will be served along with all the basic side dishes and live entertainment. Café Lambda will be closed Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup>. Please check future ads for times.

The Lambda Community Center is a non-profit organization serving the lesbian, gay and bisexual community. It is our goal to further the well being of gay men, lesbians and bisexuals by providing essential human services to the community, organizing and sponsoring community activities, and increasing positive public awareness of our community.

**P.S. We can't do this without YOU.**



**Come Join us for our 3rd Annual  
Christmas Tree Lighting  
Saturday - December 3rd - 6:00PM**

## Youth Happenings by Brian Craig

Change. It's a scary word, but is very necessary for growth. Change and growth are two things that will be happening here at the Lambda Community Center in the near future.

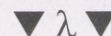
From the top on down, things are going to be better than ever before. This can only be done by people helping make the change. As coordinator of youth programs, I need help in knowing where to focus the changes.

I need input from a diverse group of young adults (defined as 24 and under) as to what new programs you would like to see. I'm willing to listen to all thoughts and ideas and will do my best to accommodate as many people as possible. The only thing I ask in return is that you help make the change you suggest happen. I can only make these suggestions happen with active participation. Please remember though that I have limited resources and I'm probably not going to be able to fulfill all requests. This doesn't mean it was a bad suggestion, just an unobtainable one at the present time.

The invitation I'm referring to is open to all young adults whether you are a current youth group member or not. Only with everyone's help, can we make a bright future happen for youth programs at the Lambda Community Center.

## AIDS Action Alert by Joanna Cassese

Please be sure to ask for identification from anyone soliciting donations for AIDS at your door. Ask for proper identification and other important questions. NEVER give your credit card number out over the phone unless you are absolutely sure you are talking to a reputable agency such as SAF, CARES or The Lambda Center. The AIDS Action League is a questionable agency at best - please be careful.





## Volunteer Corner by Alex Brashears

Practice random, kindness and senseless acts of beauty.

- Anne Herbert

Last Thanksgiving as I sat with my friends, a wonderful group of women ages 30-70, around a spacious circular table, I reflected again on this adopted family of mine—women who have supported me both personally and professionally for many years, who have always “been there”, with their loving words, warm homes, and gracious hearts. Despite the fact that we live in separate physical locations, they have always provided me with a sense of community, and the sense of belonging that by itself defines a family. This year, perhaps like many of you, I can not but help to wonder how our larger community, our entire lesbian, gay, and bisexual family will be affected by the nation-wide trends seen in the recent election. As a society that has not effectively or qualitatively supported institutions that *care* for people, for the residents of a larger concept of community that could encompass not only our country's inhabitants, but also our world's people, I can only imagine and fear that we will become even more disabled in our ability to care for others with genuine humanity, compassion, and acceptance.

That is, if we **don't** act on that proverbial personal level that inevitably affects the political... The very best we can do is to do the best for our brothers and sisters, our partners, lovers, friends, co-workers, and those who have not yet touched our lives directly that we could possibly do. Do this despite the limited time we have after work when all we want to do is curl up with a good book, or in front of the TV. Do this despite the limited energy we have when it's all we can do just to deal with work and work hassles, to pay our bills, to maintain productive and loving relationships, to confront the ever-present homophobia in our lives, to deal with family junk... the list is, obviously, endless.

We already have a good model for care in our community, for we were the first ones to care for, on a gut-wrenchingly personal level, all of our loved ones affected by AIDS, and to begin service-oriented agencies. But now we also must continue the struggle to educate, to prevent and protect others, particularly our younger brother and sisters, and to look at other issues that impact our lives as gay, lesbian, and bisexual men and women.

So with this model, it's time to look at all these issues, at how we can, at least, care for ourselves and *all* the members of the g/l/b community. We can not afford to be fragmented and divisive in our approach. We can not afford to not get involved in our community in some fashion, especially now that we may not have the same level of support on an institutional or governmental basis. Our community can be a model for care-taking that our society sorely needs.

YES! This is a plea for you to get involved here at the Center, or at any of a number of other agencies that serve us, or act for us. Just call, and we'd be happy to provide some referrals.

I have been wanting to recognize some of our volunteers who have been giving so much of themselves, their time, their energy, commitment, and passion. We could not have survived as staff or as a Center without the wonderful assistance from Marilee, Cary, and more recently, from Mark. They have been *the* premier office assistants. We hope to entice Marilee to give up forever the idea of a paying job just so she can continue to bless us with her skills, organization, and rather dry sense of humor!

In addition, Mary, a phone/reception volunteer, has singlehandedly organized a group of women to do some major repairs and cleaning in our building before our open house/tree lighting ceremony on the 3rd. We are all so appreciative of her presence here. Jennifer continues work on Project Tocsin, following the activities of the religious 'right', and providing ever insightful comment and feedback on Center activities, programs, and philosophy. Thank you! And I would like to welcome some of our new outreach volunteers, Greg and Darrin. As soon as the training is finished, they'll be hitting the streets, providing HIV information and prevention strategies along with staff Addam and Julia.

And finally, the youth peer counseling hotline, the Lambda Hotline, will be on-line soon thanks to the hard work and perseverance of not only our peer counselors, but also the trainers, Steve, Marla, Barb, and Warren (and Brian!). Judging by the quantity of youth crisis calls the staff handle every day, this is a much needed service in Sacramento, so I'm very excited that it's finally going to happen. If you know of any youth, 14-24, who would like to become peer counselors for this hotline, please send them on down...refer them to Brian or myself.

## Being Alive Living Room Comes Alive

by Joanna Cassese

On November 17th over 15 members of Lambda's Being Alive Living Room gathered for a good old-fashioned Thanksgiving dinner with friends. With the help of Ron Rosenblatt and funds from the Capitol AIDS Walk our Center was buzzing with happy, well fed people. Lambda's Being Alive Living Room is a social group for people living with AIDS.

## Frankly Speaking

by Franklin Anderson

I would like to send a special thanks to the Valley Knights Motorcycle Club and to the Cafe Lambda volunteers for the time and effort they put into making the Haunted House success. Make sure to check your Lambda Center Calendars for upcoming events here at the center.

## Old Face - New Job

Addam C. Jordan

As I sit here staring at this pile on of things to do sitting on my desk, I have to ask how do I get it all done in the time I have. Then I remember that my article is due and the answer is right in front of me, ask for help. As the new HIV/AIDS Prevention and Education Outreach Worker I need to have some new ideas for outreach. So I come to you, the community, to tell me what you would like to see us do. Your ideas will be put with others from around the nation, and together we can design an outreach program to help stop the death in our community.

## Time Flies

by Karen Moors

I cannot believe that I have been here at the Lambda Center for six weeks now. I cannot say enough about the staff and volunteers here. They have been absolutely wonderful in helping me adjust to my new surroundings. So much is going on in the new program for the deaf and hearing impaired, hopefully it will all come into being. It is hard when everything is still in the planning stages. People in the deaf and hearing impaired community really need these services but we do not want to rush into any programs without fully researching them first. We are committed to quality work.

We are, however, ready to kick off our joint venture with Northern California Center on Deafness, and what better way then at our December 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas party. We (the Lambda Center and the Center on Deafness) will be providing interpreters for the evening. All of the interpreters are donating their services for the night. We are hoping that we will have interpreters not only the speaking presentations, but for the musical portion of the evening as well. For more information on the services provided that night please call me at the center.

My other AmeriCorps members are also getting involved in the activities here at the Lambda Center. On December 16<sup>th</sup> we will be sponsoring Café Lambda. Since we are doing community service in the AIDS/HIV field, we thought our evening should have a AIDS awareness theme. We are all extremely excited about the evening and are planning many wonderful activities. Everyone please come and meet my fellow AmeriCorps members and to support the fight against Aids.

In my next article, I hope to share with everyone where exactly the deaf and hearing impaired program is heading. We have had a lot of input and it will be exciting to see what develops. Thank you for your support thus far, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to call.



## Lambda Community Center Fundraiser

Order your copy of



50% of the proceeds will go directly to  
support your Lambda Community Center

Call 1-800-316-1824

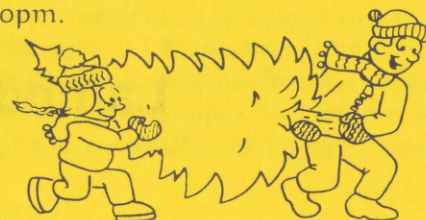
All copies will be autographed and delivered by mail. Tony and Paulette will also be available to sign *Letters* December 17 & 18 at the Victorian Holiday Arts & Crafts Festival at the Lambda Center. See you there!





Pick up your Christmas Tree at the Lambda Center's Second Annual Tree Lot – opening right after our gala 3rd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Celebration on Saturday, December 3 at 6:00pm.

Mon – Fri ..... 5:00PM – 9:00PM  
Saturday ..... Noon – 9:00PM  
Sunday ..... Noon – 8:00PM



Join Us for our Annual Lambda Craft Fair  
and Art Show



**Special Appearances and Book-signings by**

Duane Spurling,  
author of "Pieces"

Tony Ferrante and Paulette Jacobson,  
authors of "Letters From the Closet"

Saturday & Sunday December 17 - 18      10:00AM - 5:00PM

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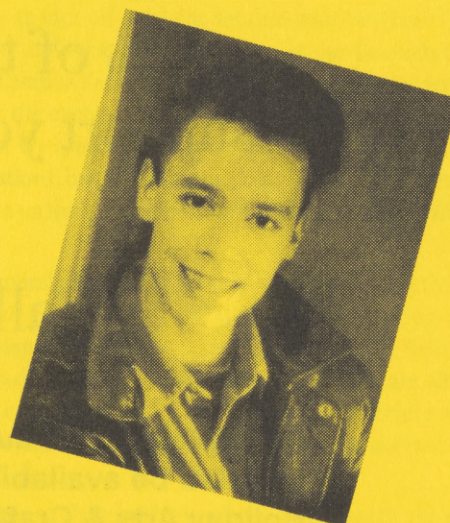
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## December 1994

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Lambda Players News</b> The Lambda Players will be performing "Baltimore Waltz" on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> of December at the 24th Street Studio "One Christmas Carol in Ten" on the 15 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> of December at the YWCA For more information, call 442-7752.				<b>1</b> 2-5PM Being Alive Living Room 6:00PM Women's C/out Group 7:30PM CODA	<b>2</b> 5:45PM Youth Group 8:00PM Café Lambda	<b>3</b> 9:00AM Eagles Walking 8:00PM - Mid Youth Social
<b>4</b> 10:00AM Eagles Biking	<b>5</b> 5:30PM Men's Coming Out Grp 7:00PM HEAL Support Group	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 2-5PM Being Alive Living Room 6:00PM Women's C/out Group 7:30PM CODA	<b>9</b> 5:45PM Youth Group 8:00PM Café Lambda	<b>10</b> 9:00AM Eagles Walking 8:00PM - Mid Youth Social
<b>11</b> 10:00AM Eagles Biking 6:30PM Sacramento Area Bisexual Network 6:30PM Gay Fathers of Sacramento	<b>12</b> 5:30PM Men's Coming Out Grp 7:00PM HEAL Support Group	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:30PM Eagles Game night 6:30PM Men of Color Support Group 7:00PM Men's Focus Group	<b>15</b> 2-5PM Being Alive Living Room 6:00PM Women's C/out Group 7:30PM CODA	<b>16</b> 5:45PM Youth Group 8:00PM Café Lambda	<b>17</b> 9:00AM Eagles Walking <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                         10AM - 5PM                          Lambda Craft Fair                          and Art Show                     </div> 8:00PM - Mid Youth Social
<b>18</b> 10:00AM Eagles Biking <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                         10AM - 5PM                          Lambda Craft Fair                          and Art Show                     </div>	<b>19</b> 5:30PM Men's Coming Out Grp 7:00PM HEAL Support Group	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:30PM Board of Directors	<b>22</b> 2-5PM Being Alive Living Room 6:00PM Women's C/out Group 7:30PM CODA	<b>23</b> 5:45PM Youth Group 8:00PM Café Lambda Special!	<b>24</b> Closed for Christmas
<b>25</b> Closed for Christmas	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:00PM CGNIE	<b>28</b> 6:30PM Eagles Potluck 6:30PM Men of Color Support Group 7:00PM Men's Focus Group	<b>29</b> 2-5PM Being Alive Living Room 6:00PM Women's C/out Group 7:30PM CODA	<b>30</b> Closed for New Years Wishing you a happy and healthy new year!	<b>31</b>

**Being Gay Today** – Sacramento Cable channel 17: Thurs 10PM, Fri 4PM and Sat 10AM.

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Sacramento's new AIDS Hospice; Authors of "Letters from the Closet" and travel information.

Dec 8<sup>th</sup> Momentum from the HRCF and Outlook from the Bay Area

Dec 15<sup>th</sup> A 1994 World AIDS Day Special

Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> Andross' "Outrageous II"

Dec 29<sup>th</sup> The year in review - a local look.

### CAFE LAMBDA

Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosted by Delta Lambda Phi from UC Davis

Dec 9<sup>th</sup> Singer - Songwriter Douglas Wolfe

Dec 16<sup>th</sup> Hosted by AmeriCorps

Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> A special feast - turkey, duck and all the trimmin's. As if that weren't enough, we've arranged live entertainment.



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We've listed many of The Center's programs in previous issues as well as on our masthead. Are you surprised at the number and scope of them? If so, you're not alone. It's your support that keeps the doors open and keeps these programs alive. Whether it's five dollars or five thousand dollars - it all adds up and pays the bills. Please, do it now. **Thank You!**

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